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CIA, 2 Other Agencies Exempt—

Senate Passes Anti-Snooping Bill

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Washington — The Senate voted Wednesday to forbid Government personnel officials to ask Federal employees questions about their sex lives and other personal matters.

The 79-to-4 vote followed debate over whether to exempt the Central Intelligence Agency. The agency won a partial victory, along with the National Security Agency and Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The three agencies were exempted from a major provision of the bill which would forbid Government agencies from requiring their employees or job applicants to take lie detector or psychological tests designed to obtain information about sexual matters, personal finances, religion and family matters.

Sent to House

Such tests would be permitted in these three agencies only if their director or designated official decided the examination was required to protect the national security.

The bill, sponsored by Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr. (Dem., N. C.) and 55 other Senators, was sent to the House.

The bill also would forbid "indiscriminate" requirements that employers and job applicants:

—Disclose their race, religion or national origin.

—Attend Government-sponsored meetings or participate in outside activities unrelated to their employment.

—Report on their outside activities.

—Support political candidates or attend political meetings.

—Buy bonds or make charitable contributions under coercion from their supervisors.

—Disclose their financial affairs or those of their immediate families unless, in specified cases, there is a conflict of interest question.

Provides for Board

The bill would establish a board of employees' rights to hear complaints and accord employees the right to civil action in a Federal court for violation or threatened violation of the proposed law's provisions.

Senator John Stennis (Dem., Miss.), a member of the seven-member Senate CIA watchdog committee, told the Senate the bill would hamper the CIA and the NSA in their rigid screening of job applicants. He said he and Senator Richard B. Russell (Dem., Ga.), chairman of the Senate

Armed Services Committee and of the CIA Committee, believed the CIA should be totally exempted.

Senator Henry M. Jackson (Dem., Wash.), said the use of lie detectors by the CIA was an absolute necessity. Last year, he said one hundred security risks were stopped short of CIA employment because of such tests.

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